

NEW JERSEY/NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
JANUARY 27, 2023
PIERMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT, PIERMONT, NEW YORK

Meeting called to order by President Roy DeYoung, Jr. at 2003 hours. Invocation given by Chaplain W. Drew. Flag salute led by 1st Vice-President B. Hennig.

Attendance: President DeYoung, 1st Vice-President B. Hennig, 2nd Vice-President A. Chiodo, Secretary R. Weyer, Asst. Secretary N. Naylis, Treasurer G. Saigh, Asst. Treasurer A. Silverman, Financial Secretary J. Schwedhelm. Sergeant-at-Arms R. Ryan. Chaplain W. Drew. Trustees G. Cerbasi, P. Conner, P. Fenske, T. McCoy, J. Malool, and R. Neerhout. Past Presidents P. DeVries and S. Kufel.

Minutes: There were no additions or corrections to the minutes and a motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the minutes from the last general meeting.

Special guest: Kirk Smith spoke about and presented a slide show of his business called N.Y. Truck Work Fire Tactics. He will gladly come to any firehouse and run training classes.

President's report: DeYoung wished everyone a Happy New Year then gave a history of the NJ/NY stating it had a temporary start in 1913 and then the first official meeting was held on March 27, 1914 in Park Ridge, NJ's firehouse. The first Convention was held on July 25, 1914 in Spring Valley, NY. The first firemen's contest was September 18, 1915 at the Bergen County Fairgrounds. The first ladies auxiliary started on April 6, 1925. The first *Signal* newsletter came out in 1960 and is still going strong today. Our association is responsible for the Bergen County Law and Public Safety Academy which started in 1965 and was known back then as the Bergen County School and had three buildings on the property. The president thanked Piermont for holding tonight's meeting; it was the 61st time Piermont has hosted this meeting. The annual Memorial Service is May 21st at the Bergen County Fire Academy. We still need to fill an open trustee slot and DeYoung is hoping to fill it with someone from Rockland County. The Presidential Scholarship Award given at the Convention will be in memory of Nick Gatti who passed away a couple of years ago. Gatti was a member of Piermont's Fire Department.

President DeYoung announced Hillsdale could not take on the annual Convention this year due to unforeseen circumstances so the Lyndhurst Fire Department stated they will host it for which the President is very grateful for. The Convention will be June 2nd at 8 p.m. in Lyndhurst, NJ.

1st Vice-president's report: B. Hennig wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. He reiterated that hosts are still needed for the NJ/NY meeting in March, April and September in 2024. Let him know if your town can host. All of 2023 is booked.

2nd Vice-president's report: A. Chiodo also wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. He reported the cards to update your personal information for the NJ/NY records were sent out with the dues notices and are coming back in. Gift cards went out to two families who suffered a

bad fire; \$400 to a Little Ferry family and \$300 to a Secaucus family. Chiodo gave his report regarding holding a murder mystery night as a fundraiser, unfortunately, the cost is too expensive and if we don't sell 150 tickets, it would put this association in the red. Ideas and suggestions were discussed and it will be talked about again at the next E-Board meeting.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer G. Saigh read his report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the report. Saigh stated money is coming in for the clothing bins but we need to get more bins placed throughout Bergen County. There are only 15 bins in Bergen County and the rest are around the State.

Financial secretary's report: J. Schwedhelm stated all the dues notices were mailed out and he reported the total amount of dues collected so far is \$145.

The Signal: *The Signal* was printed and mailed out yesterday. If anyone wants to go to the upcoming seminar about lithium-ion batteries at Bergenfield High School, fill out the form in *The Signal* and send it in with a check for \$40.

Website: G. Saigh stated all of the necessary applications for this organization can be found on the website.

Awards: P. Conner stated April 1st is the deadline for all awards that will be given out at the Convention and if there is someone you want to put in for an award, fill out the application on the website and get it to Conner.

Memorial committee: J. Malool reported Bergen County has three line of duty deaths and Rockland County has two that date back to 1930 that have to be added onto the monument up at the Academy.

Fund raising: J. Malool spoke about the upcoming seminar on February 11th at Bergenfield High School. He told everyone what to expect from this seminar that deals with the dangerous problems and fires associated with lithium-ion batteries. .5 CEUs will be given out for fire inspectors, fire officials and fire investigators.

New Jersey State Firemen's Association: All relief associations have to file two reports in February; one on Feb. 20 and one on 28. The reports are the financial standing report and the membership report. They should be gotten in as soon as possible.

Bergen County Fire Academy: P. Conner stated the Bergen County Fire Academy is three months' ahead of schedule on their new construction up there, instructors are still needed to teach classes, Conner is still pushing for online training although the Director is against going back to this type of training, and the chiefs and training officers meeting is February 18th at 9 a.m.

Bergen County Fire Chiefs Association: A. Silverman reported the next meeting is February 13th in Cresskill. Dues in the amount of \$25 are due. This organization is losing members and their future is uncertain.

Bergen County Firemen's Home Association: G. Heflich stated there are no more fees incurred when you enter into the Home and the Home is running 100% better. Roger Hull has become the new secretary and is doing a great job. Superintendent J. Veras is also doing a great job making sure the residents are well taken care of.

Bergen County Fire Prevention Association: A. Silverman stated the next meeting is February 8th at 7:30 p.m. in Old Tappan and this organization is very active and gets good turnouts.

National Volunteer Fire Council: G. Heflich reported new members are always welcome to join the NVFC. He gave out good information about this group and what they do.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Secretary Weyer announced Matthew Logan from the Moonachie Fire Department has joined this organization. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept this new person as a member.

Sergeant at Arms: R. Ryan reported 49 people were in attendance.

Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. President DeYoung adjourned the meeting at 2127 hours. Chaplain T. McCoy gave the vote of thanks as well as the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosemary Weyer, Secretary (recorded the minutes)
Nancy Naylis, Asst. Secretary (typed the minutes)